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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

April 19, 1999

The Honorable William Kennard
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing specifically to address the issue of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that the FCC has begun regarding low-power FM, and express my great concerns about the implementation of such a new level of FM service.

As a small market broadcaster, who has worked faithfully in observing the well-planned rules and regulations from the FCC regarding specifically interference with other stations, I am deeply concerned that this new proposed service will completely undo our current regulations and cause unchecked interference on the FM band. Ultimately, this will cause a tremendous amount of dissatisfaction from the radio listener consumer. Particularly, I believe this interference will be more significant in the rural and smaller markets, since it is very likely that few, if any, low-power signals will even be available in the larger markets.

While I understand the desire on the Commission's part to provide an environment that more individuals could be involved in broadcasting, I believe that opportunity currently exists since many AM and FM channels are available for such individuals to apply for in most areas of the country. I believe the current system provides equal opportunity for individuals to do their research, present the Commission with their application, and raise the appropriate capital to secure a frequency.

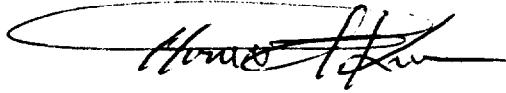
I do not see any forethought in this notice regarding the planned transition to digital audio broadcasting. While this promises to provide improved service to the consumer, this proposed micro or low-power station rulemaking has the potential to seriously impair the ability of the digital signals to reach our listeners without interference.

Moreover, I believe the ownership restrictions in the proposed rulemaking for low-power stations and the Commission's desire to provide licenses to certain favored groups is directly opposed to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

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I strongly suggest that you and the Commission put the low-power FM actions on hold until these major issues are resolved, particularly the interference issue. It makes the most sense to wait on low-power FM until broadcasters have fully transitioned to digital transmission. Americans rely on interference-free radio signals to provide important news, weather and local information. That information flow could be seriously jeopardized with this new proposed rule-making. Thank you for your consideration to these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas A. Koser", with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

Thomas A. Koser
President
WJMC Radio